



# St. Paul Ministries

101 Huffman Avenue • Dayton, OH 45403

937-252-4467 • FAX: 937-254-5227

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*St. Paul, a United Methodist Church, and so much more...*



## Our Spiritual Path Can be a Third Way

St. Paul United Methodist Church is a gathering of very, very diverse folks who first are welcomed and treated like they belong; with excellent teaching through sermons, Bible studies and informal conversation, the group journeys on a path to “believe” deeper and deeper; and we reach out here or go out to bless and be blessed. We don’t try to agree on everything because we are diverse. However, God is leading us collectively to pay attention to God’s wisdom, to open our hearts to understanding and to open our minds to insight. Following the Word, Jesus, who told his disciples that He is the Truth, puts us with the poor and broken and those who discover humility. From this stance, we argue less.



Presently we have been reading and in conversation about this path as followed by Saint Francis of Assisi through an articulation in a book, *Eagar to Love*, by Father Richard Rohr. Like Francis and his brothers and sisters, we at St. Paul are training through seeking to imitate Jesus, the person, not just to worship Him. God is leading this little flock and our many friends who come to be in ministry with us to humbly be the Body of Christ. Currently we are invited to align with the practical and functional Christianity found in the book of James.

We are in the midst of profound human suffering. We must pay attention to our daily practices — are they compatible with the teachings of Jesus? We must form humble relationships — are they compatible with the actions of Jesus? We must strive for a compassionate way of life — are these consistent with Jesus’ model while He was with us on earth?

The United Methodist Church is in a season of change. As human beings, we tend to “live” ourselves into the new way of thinking more than “think” into new ways of living. Everything is not black and white. There does not always have to be a singular right or wrong way. Could it be that the Institutional Church has been arguing and asking the wrong questions, blaming and/or reacting to one other? Is there a Third Way? Can we seek to live prophetically and humbly guide others through words and actions into this deeper way? Our third way is to intentionally emphasize *doing*, *including* and *loving*. This is different than trying to follow dualistic rules. Instead of worrying and arguing about obeying/disobeying rules of the church, we are focusing on obedience to the essence of the Gospel itself, knowing and following Jesus who is the Way.

What have we been learning about this Third Way? It is a way of responding, without being antagonistic, by introducing alternatives to reframe an issue and creating something new, as the Holy Spirit always does. This Third Way of compassionate creativity is much more positive than getting trapped into either fight or flight. What we emphasize and how we stress it determine what we pay attention to and what we allow ourselves to ignore. We are human and all limited but God’s Love is eternal. It seems that being resourced by God’s Love offers us an abundance to be shared. Our highest goal is to love with God’s love.

I invite you to join discussion with some folks in the St. Paul community if any of these ideas have been stirring in you as well.

Joan Johnson

## Tax Season Update

**Hooray!** St. Paul reached its goal of 200 tax clients in the 2016 tax season! The five tax counselors served 216 clients for a total of 428 returns [federal and state]. Of the 216 clients, 88 were seniors 60+ years. One hundred seventy nine clients received a total of \$260,277 in refunds for an average of \$1,454.



### Give the gift of a Lift!

Do you have a passion to help seniors? Older adults who are no longer able to drive need your help. Become a volunteer driver for **Rides4Seniors** program and provide rides for seniors who need transportation to medical and social service appointments, senior programming, community events, volunteer opportunities — anywhere that keeps older adults healthy, active, and independent. **Rides4Seniors** keeps older adults (age 55+) safe and gives a valuable sense of community and independence. The service area includes zip codes 45403, 45404, 45410 and part of 45431. Training to be a volunteer driver will be provided. You will be supplied with the tools and information you need to become a successful volunteer driver. If becoming a volunteer driver sounds like a good fit for you, or for more information, contact **Rides4Seniors** Program Manager, Rebecca Hall, at (937) 252-5700 ext. 3227 or [www.daytonlec.org/rides4seniors](http://www.daytonlec.org/rides4seniors).

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## Young Peacemakers' Club

YPC ended the school year with graduation and a celebration with the families on Wednesday, May 18. This year's graduates are Geraldine Bello, Tyler Lorenz and Cassie Snyder. Cassie and Geraldine have participated since preschool days. At the May 18 event, Pastor Steve explained the process by which all the children who worked hard on attendance and homework will get a bike, helmet and training from Life Enrichment Center.



The first week of May, we had to say goodbye to all of the Big Brothers, Big Sisters from UD until next school year. We also bid Theresa Schneider, a work/study student from UD farewell as she graduated and takes a position in the East. McKenzie Troyano and Hannah Dunne will return next fall as well as Taylor Chamber who continues to work with the YPC children because she lives in Dayton.



Summer YPC Fun will take place in June on Monday and Wednesday afternoons. In addition, the YPC members have been invited to Vacation Bible School at Belmont United Methodist Church June 20 – 24 in the evenings. Normandy United Methodist Church volunteers are hosting a picnic at the lovely Normandy picnic area on Tuesday, June 28 for all YPC members. July means church camp for 14 St. Paul children and Mission U for 6 youth.

We pray for a safe and fun-filled summer for all!

## Ladies Day Out — A New Women's Ministry

We will be adding a new ministry this fall through a partnership with the East Dayton Senior Collaborative. Ladies Day Out is intended to assist the underserved population of senior women at St. Paul UMC, the residential senior facility across the street from the church, along with many women in the community, by providing a free community lunch and programming for women 55+ on Thursdays from 11 a.m.–1 p.m. starting September 8. Programs offered will vary in topics and activities from educational, health and wellness, and recreational.

Why this ministry? By looking at our holy currencies, especially the currencies of wellness and truth, we discovered a serious need for the senior women population of our community. As women grow older, their likelihood of living alone increases. While living alone does not inevitably lead to social isolation, it certainly is a predisposing factor. Social contacts decrease as women age for a variety of reasons including retirement, death of friends and family, or lack of mobility. Regardless of the causes of senior isolation, the consequences can be alarming and even harmful. Even perceived social isolation — the feeling you are lonely — is a struggle for many older women. Offering a program that provides an opportunity to come together in a community experience can go a long way to lessen the feeling of isolation for senior women thus creating a healthier, happier life for those we serve.

We are lining up volunteers to help in this ministry. Many opportunities are available for anyone or any group to assist with this program. To find out more, call Beth Vanoli or Vicki Morris at the church: 937-252-4467.





# June 2016

sunday	monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday	saturday
<b>Office Hours:</b> M-F:.....9 a.m.–3 p.m.  <b>Food Pantry:</b> M, W, TH: .....10 a.m.–2:45 p.m.  <b>Stuff Shoppe:</b> M, W TH: .....10 a.m.–2:45 p.m. T: .....12:30 p.m.–2:00 p.m.		<b>April Worship Attendance</b>  <b>4/3/2016 34</b> <b>4/10/2016 35</b> <b>4/17/2016 40</b> <b>4/24/2016 39</b>	1 ESOL Classes 10 a.m.–12 Noon  Las Amigas 6:45 p.m.	2 KOFFEE HOUR 11 a.m.	3	4 COMMUNITY BREAKFAST 9 a.m. Served by Belmont UMC  YARD SALE
5 GATHERING 9 a.m. WORSHIP 10 a.m.  Spanish Bible Study and Worship 5–7 p.m.	6 Summer YPC 3–5:30 p.m.	7 WORSHIP 11:30 a.m.  LUNCH – 12 noon Served by Community UMC	8 ESOL Classes 10 a.m.–12 Noon  Summer YPC 3–5:30 p.m.  Las Amigas 6:45 p.m.	9 KOFFEE HOUR 11 a.m.	10	11 COMMUNITY BREAKFAST 9 a.m. Served by Aley UMC
12 Gathering 9 a.m. WORSHIP 10 a.m.  BAPTISMS and NEW MEMBERS  Spanish Bible Study and Worship 5–7 p.m.	13 Summer YPC 3–5:30 p.m.	14 WORSHIP 11:30 a.m.  LUNCH – 12 noon Served by Concord UMC	15 ESOL Classes 10 a.m.–12 Noon  Summer YPC 3–5:30 p.m.  Las Amigas 6:45 p.m.	16 WESLEY CENTER PRAYER BREAKFAST	17	18 COMMUNITY BREAKFAST 9 a.m. Served by Normandy UMC
19 Gathering 9 a.m. WORSHIP 10 a.m.  Spanish Bible Study and Worship 5–7 p.m.	20 VBS at Belmont June 20–24 6–8 p.m.  Summer YPC 3–5:30 p.m.	21 WORSHIP 11:30 a.m.  LUNCH – 12 noon Served by Normandy UMC  VBS at Belmont	22 ESOL Classes 10 a.m.–12 Noon  Summer YPC 3–5:30 p.m.  Las Amigas 6:45 p.m.  VBS at Belmont	23 KOFFEE HOUR 11 a.m.  VBS at Belmont	24 VBS at Belmont	25 COMMUNITY BREAKFAST 9 a.m. Served by Belmont Youth
26 Gathering 9 a.m. WORSHIP 10 a.m.  Spanish Bible Study and Worship 5–7 p.m.	27 Summer YPC 3–5:30 p.m.	28 WORSHIP 11:30 a.m. LUNCH – 12 noon Served by Centerville UMC Youth  Council of Ministries Meeting: 1:15 p.m.  YPC Picnic at Normandy UMC 3–5:30 p.m.	29 ESOL Classes 10 a.m.–12 Noon  Summer YPC (Last Day) 3–5:30 p.m.  Las Amigas 6:45 p.m.	30 KOFFEE HOUR 11 a.m.	<i>Please Note St. Paul's            New Summer            Worship Schedule            beginning on June 5            Gathering: 9 a.m.            Worship: 10 a.m.</i>	



# volunteer spotlight

Paul Papanek came to St. Paul after a conversation with Pastor Steve at a funeral. He is a retired school teacher, counselor and psychologist who has worked in education for 45 years. In retirement, Paul teaches woodcarving to young people here in Dayton, at the Standing Rock Indian Reservation in South Dakota and at the Eolia Christian Community Outreach in Kentucky.

Paul's assistant is Jim Filipiak of Troy, Ohio who grew up in Milwaukee, Wisconsin in a neighborhood similar to St. Paul's. Like Paul, Jim is a member to the Bruckner Woodcarvers Club. Jim says that woodcarving gives the youth an opportunity to create something with their hands, to learn something about themselves, to develop new skills, to realize people care about them and to learn life lessons.



God has blessed St. Paul with Paul

## Huffman Neighborhood Garage Sale

*It's that time of year again* to sort through your cabinets, closets, garages, basements, etc. for all those wonderful treasures that someone else is just yearning to own. Please bring your donations to St. Paul between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m.

on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday or Friday.

On Saturday, June 4, the Huffman Historic Neighborhood will hold a neighborhood-wide yard sale. Sale hours will be 9 a.m.-4 p.m. This event will coincide with St. Anne's Historic Neighborhood's Trash and Treasure Day. St. Paul will be open from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. offering hot dogs, chips, drinks, an outdoor sale of household items, toys, etc., and the Stuff Shoppe will be open for clothing. St. Paul will offer hospitality by having our restrooms open for the public.

## Needs List . . .

- Bagged Beans
- Booster Seats for the Table
- Boxed Potatoes
- Canned Beans
- Canned Fruit
- Canned Soups
- Canned Vegetables
- Cereal

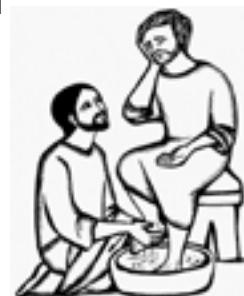


### Fans

- Long heavy duty extension cord
- Microwave/oven-safe glass casseroles with lids
- Plastic Drink Pitchers

## Servant Opportunities

- People to be a part of a team to organize and improve the Stuff Shoppe
- People to work on bikes, which will be given to our YPC children, at LEC
- People to maintain the St. Paul landscaping this summer
- People interested in helping with the new Ladies Day Out program
- People to help with Famer's Market on Tuesdays
- People to help with our evening Hispanic Ministry programs : Spiritual formation for school-age children, babysitter for toddlers, and music/ audio-visual volunteer for Sunday evening worship (No need to speak Spanish)



## At a glimpse . . . . .

**During April 2016, with your support, St. Paul UMC**

- **served 1177 delicious hot meals at Tuesday lunch and Saturday breakfast;**
- **provided groceries for 576 individuals and food for 8,640 meals; 1667 lbs. of donated food; 630 lbs. of donated bread and pastries through the Emergency Food Pantry;**
- **placed 400+ pieces of clothing in the hands of many grateful people and made \$210.00 for the Outreach Ministry. (We have not been able to open the Stuff Shoppe after lunch on Tuesdays because we do not have a cashier. Please consider volunteering!)**